

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR


A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

VOLUME II.

FORT WAYNE, IND., MAY, 1890.

NUMBER 5.

ST. JOSEPH CLASSIS.



T. JOSEPH CLASSIS convened in annual session at Goshen, Ind., April 22. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Freeman Ware, of Three Rivers, Mich. The attendance of ministers and lay delegates was as large as usual. During the sessions the ordinary routine of business was transacted. The parochial and statistical reports indicated that the pastors throughout the bounds of classis had been doing efficient work. The people have been liberal in their offerings to the benevolent institutions of the church. Last year St. Joseph Classis contributed more to benevolence, in proportion to its membership, than any other classis in the Ohio Synod, and we hope we have been even more liberal this year. The assessment for the ensuing year was fixed at fifty cents per member. The apportionment for Grace church will be \$90.00. Our church contributed nearly twice this amount for benevolence during the past year, so we feel confident we shall be quite able to meet our assessment this year.

The church is none the poorer for having done liberal things for the Lord in the past, and we are confident it shall not suffer any for giving freely to the Lord in the future. Classis instructed Rev. L. B. Clayton of Hudson, Ind., to open the Reformed Church at Waterloo, and hold regular preaching services, with the hope that the scattered fragments of what was once a prosperous congregation at this place, may again be collected and organized. We are hopeful that Rev. Clayton may be successful in this undertaking. We have a fine church building at Waterloo, but for three or four years past there have been no services held in this house of worship.

Rev. W. H. Mawherter, under a special arrangement of Classis and of the Womens' Classical Missionary Society, continues his work in the Neriah charge with the appropriation of \$200 from the "Ladies Society." This field has been struggling for life for

many years amid many reverses and sore disappointments. Classis feels that there is still a hopeful future for these people, and under the present pastorate the church may possibly take new courage and become an established and self-supporting charge. Rev. S. A. Ault was received from the Witchita Classis, Synod of the Interior, and settled as pastor of the Wakeshma charge. Rev. N. H. Loose, pastor of the Plymouth mission, has resigned, and was dismissed to Lancaster Classis, Ohio Synod, and will be located pastor of the Baltimore charge. We feel very sorry to have Rev. Loose remove from our midst. He was a pleasant neighbor, and one of the most efficient workers in St. Joseph Classis. The people at Plymouth are very loathe to part with so beloved a pastor. We trust these people may not be compelled to remain without a pastor any great length of time. Classis having completed all its business by Friday evening, April 25, it adjourned to meet in its next annual session at Three Rivers, Mich., in the month of May, 1891.

The General Synod of the Reformed Church will convene in tri-annual session in the First Reformed Church of Lebanon, Pa., May 28, 1890. Many matters of vital interest will come before this Synod: Foreign Missions, Home Mission Work, New Constitution, New Church Hymnal. The delegates from St. Joseph Classis are: Ministers, J. M. Kessler and W. H. Xanders; primarii, A. K. Zartman and H. S. Gekeler; secundi, Jacob Pfeiffer and Benjamin Ashbacher, primarii. The Women's Missionary Society meets at the same place and time. Mrs. A. K. Zartman is delegate both from the Ohio Synod and St. Joseph Classis with Miss Loma Stiver as classical alternate.

The Grace Church delegates, while at the meeting of classis at Goshen, were royally entertained by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Platter. Our stay with them was delightful, but altogether too short. We hope that at some time in the near future we may have the privilege of reciprocating their hospitality.

We have lately received a number of new subscriptions for the VISITOR. We are ready to receive more. Send in the names.

THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. JOSEPH CLASSIS.

This society met in annual convention at Goshen, Ind., April 24 and 25. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mrs. A. K. Zartman, Fort Wayne; Vice President, Mrs. W. H. Xanders, Bluffton; Recording Secretary, Miss Loma Stiver, Millersburg; Treasurer, Mrs. L. M. Benham, Plymouth; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Lew Wanner, Goshen.

The society was organized one year ago at Colon, Mich. At present it contains eight local societies, with a membership of over 250. \$156.17 were paid into the treasury of the society during the year. Of this amount \$146 were paid to Rev. N. H. Loose, pastor of the Plymouth mission, the society having assumed partial support of this mission a year ago. This, however, is not the total amount of money raised by these societies. They have assisted in paying the classical apportionments of their respective congregations, and also contributed to home and foreign missions, and for local church purposes, aggregating a total of over \$600.

This society is only in its infancy, but it has certainly made commendable progress during the brief time of its organization. We hope to accomplish a great work in the future, the Lord being with us.

On Thursday evening an interesting missionary service was held, which was conducted by the society. Papers were read by the ladies and a few addresses made by some of the ministers attending the meeting of classis. For the coming year the Society has assumed a partial support of the Rev. W. H. Mawherter, pastor of the Neriah Mission. It is hoped that the pastors throughout the classis will cheerfully co-operate with the women in their work. Sometimes it happens that pastors are profuse in their laudations of the grand work the ladies are doing, but when it comes to assist the women in their efforts they are not so free to act. May the Lord direct us in our work and support us in our efforts to glorify his name.

MRS. A. K. ZARTMAN.

Mrs. Alferd Little, and Mrs. Bradley, have both been quite ill for some time. We have missed them from our services.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

25 Cents per Year.

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - - EDITOR.

Board of Managers; REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, F. D. PAULUS, and D. W. SOUDER.

Entered at the postoffice at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as second-class matter. Feb. 7, 1899.

THE seventh anniversary of Grace Church will occur on Sabbath, May 25. The church is looking forward to this day with great interest. In the morning the pastor will preach the anniversary sermon, having for his topic, "The Prosperous Church." Our people will be expected to do all they can to make these services a success. See to it, brother and sister, that you will be at the church upon this occasion. Come having the spirit of prayer and thanksgiving—praising the Lord for His continued goodness unto the church, and praying unto Him for His blessing and guidance in the future. Come also on this day to the Lord's house prepared to make a liberal offering to the Lord. A special effort will be made at the morning service to raise fully \$100, over and above the ordinary weekly contributions. There are bills and expenses to be met by the 1st of June, so that our treasurer must have nearly twice this amount of money in hand. The pastor and consistory do not believe it is policy to allow debts to accumulate upon the church, therefore the effort will be made to furnish our treasury with the funds that are needed. We have the confidence also that the people will cheerfully respond when the needs of the church are known and the opportunity is given.

At the morning service of our anniversary day, the doors of the church will be opened to applicants for church membership. There are a number of persons who are contemplating coming into the church soon, this will afford them a good opportunity.

Let us make our anniversary services a season of spiritual refreshing and of thanksgiving. May each member of the church labor to this end.

On Sabbath evening, May 4th, the pastor began a series of Sabbath evening talks on "Home." These talks will be continued through the months of May and June. The topic for Sabbath evening, May 11th, will be "Home Influences;" May 18th, "The Perils of the American Home, or the Club Room and the Saloon, versus the American Home;" May 25th, Memorial Sermon, "The boys who Saved our Homes." Later, talks will be given upon topics as follows: The Railroad Man's Home; The Father in the Home; Mother,

Queen of the Home; The Model Mother; The Young Man Starting out from Home; The Daughter. It is hoped that all the members of the church will be privileged to hear these sermons, and that they will bring their friends with them to these services. During the Summer months our evening services will necessarily be brief, but we hope they shall be spirited. Come prepared to join in the singing and the spirit of these meetings. A spirited congregation helps to make a spirited speaker.

On Monday morning, April 20, after a prolonged illness of some three months, Rosa Thompson, daughter of Owen and Mary Thompson, departed this life. She was aged 18 years, 1 month and 11 days. A few weeks prior to her death she was received into full membership with Grace church by holy baptism. From the time of her adoption into the family of God, she enjoyed peace of heart, and patiently awaited the time of her departure. In her brief christian life we had very positive proof that Jesus is precious unto those who believe. Rosa had no fears of death, upon the contrary, she looked forward with delight to the hour when she might go and be forever with the Lord. Though young in years, when life is full of hope and promise, when she had once tasted of the heavenly bliss, she was ready to exchange the life which now is, for the glory of the life which is to come. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have the sympathy of the pastor and members of Grace Church in their bereavement. The Lord has indeed sorely afflicted them. They are now left without a child to comfort their hearts. Their three children have been gathered into the "home above." But they mourn not as those who have no hope. They have the full assurance that their treasures are laid up in heaven, and by and by when they have completed their pilgrimage, they shall be reunited with their loved ones again. The funeral services were held at Grace Church, on Wednesday morning, April 22. Rev. C. F. Kriete, of the Salem Reformed church rendered valuable assistance in these services.

May the Lord comfort the hearts of the bereaved parents and friends.

The Grand Army posts of the city have been invited to the memorial services at the Grace Church, Sabbath evening, May 25.

Sabbath morning, May 19, the pastor will preach on, "Giving to the Lord." Every member of the church should be at this service.

Y. P. S. C. E.

For the benefit of our Young People's Society we insert below the programme of the First District convention of the Young Peoples' Society of Christian Endeavor, of North Eastern Indiana, to be held in the First Presbyterian church, of this city, on Tuesday, May 13. We hope all our young people can attend this convention.

PROGRAMME.

Tuesday Afternoon.

- 2:00. Devotional Service.....Rev. A. K. Zartman
2:15. Address of Welcome.....Dr. D. W. Moffat
2:25. Response.....
.....Miss M. Gertrude Willis, Waterloo
2:38. Five Minute Papers on Committee Work.
(a) Lookout Committee.....
.....Miss Kate Mohler, Lima
(b) Prayer Meeting Committee.....
.....A. W. Ritter, Hawpatch
(c) Social Committee.....Miss Lida Lowry
2:50. Two Minute Reports from Societies.
3:30. Ten Minute Papers.
(a) "Things that Hinder".....
.....James Gerard, Decatur
(b) "Prayer Meeting Ruts".....
.....P. H. Clugston, Columbia City
3:50. General discussion on "How can we Reach our Associate Members and Extend the Work in our District?"
4:00. Pastors' Half Hour.
4:30. Consecration Service.....Rev. J. M. Boggs

Tuesday Evening.

- 7:30. Devotional Services.
7:45. "Pledge Requirements".....
.....Thos. R. Marshall, Columbia City
8:00. Music.....Haydn Quartette
8:10. Address.....
.....Dr. J. A. Rondthaler, Indianapolis
Music.....Haydn Quartette
Question Box.....Dr. J. A. Rondthaler
Singing—"God be with you till We meet Again."
Reception in the Church Parlors.
"We are Laborers together with God."

Friday, May 16th a special meeting of St. Joseph classes will be held at the Grace church, at the request of Messrs. Roth and Smith, applicants for the gospel ministry. These gentlemen will graduate from the Theological Seminary at Tiffin, Ohio, May 14, and are coming before classis for examination and licensure to the ministry. The meeting of classis will open Friday morning at ten o'clock and the examinations will likely continue through the day. In the evening, in accordance with a request of classis, these applicants will deliver brief addresses on the following topics: B. A. Roth, "The Image of God in Man;" J. C. Smith, "Revelation." The examinations will be open to the public, and the congregation and friends of the church are especially invited to the evening exercises.

Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Miller, sister and niece of Mrs. Thompson, have gone to their Western home. Seattle, W. T. We are sorry they did not make Fort Wayne their home. They are very pleasant ladies and would have been valuable accessions to the church. They bear with them our prayers and best wishes, and we hope they may find many friends in their new home.

GRACE REFORMED CHURCH DIRECTORY.

Our Church Parlors on East Washington St.,
between Barr and Lafayette streets.

SERVICES.

Sabbath morning,	10:30
Sabbath evening	7:30
Sunday School,	9:30
Teachers' meeting Sabbath evening	6:30
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening	7:30

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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

MRS. A. K. ZARTMAN—PRESIDENT.
MRS. F. D. PAULUS—VICE PRESIDENT.
EMMA NEIREITER—Secretary.
MRS. M. CONET—Treasurer

BRIEF AND PERSONAL NOTES.

Seventh anniversary of Grace Church
May 25.

Mrs. Addie McAndrews is at home
for the time, with her parents, Mr. and
Mrs. Robert Gavin.

Miss Alice Vordermark has gone to
visit with friends in Southern Ohio.
She will in all probability remain the
greater part of the summer.

Rev. C. F. Kriete, of the Salem's
Church, and Rev. C. Schaft of the St.
Johns church, are delegates to the
General Synod at Lebanon, Pa.

Mrs. A. McClure and Grand-Mother
McClure are at Grand Rapids. It is
hoped Grand-Mother may soon return
home much improved in health.

Sabbath evening, May 25th, the pas-
tor will preach a Memorial Sermon, to
which all the old soldiers in the city
are invited. The topic for the evening
will be: "The Men Who Saved Our
Homes."

The concert which will be given by
Mrs. Zartman and the Mission Band,
will be one of the events of the church
in the near future. The date of the
concert has not yet been fixed. The
"little folks" must work early and late
in filling up their barrels.

Miss Lou Donaldson, of Millersbury,
Ind., a former acquaintance of the
pastor's family, has recently been visit-
ing some friends in the city. During
her sojourn here she called at the par-
sonage. We were sorry her stay was
so brief. We are always glad to meet
our friends at our home.

Elder D. W. Souder is before the
people of Allen county, for the office of

County Clerk. There is possibly no
man in the county better qualified for
this office than brother Souder, having
been in the Clerk's office for many
years, and we are certain also, there is
no man more worthy of the office than
he is. We hope he may have the
hearty support of all persons who are
anxious to see men of worth and honor
elected to positions of influence and
trust.

The pastor recently received a letter
from Mrs. Mollie Earl, who is now re-
siding at Kenton, Ohio. In this letter
she writes us as follows: "I hope you
are all well, and that Grace Church is
prospering. I love it, and all the dear
people. I am well, and my babe is
well. She is growing nicely and can
toddle all over the house. She is a
great comfort to me in my loneliness. I
have many kind friends, but it is hard
to be patient and bear such afflictions,
although I know that my dear husband
is safe in Heaven and waiting to wel-
come us there. His mother and a
brother have gone since, and I know
they are all happy together. I shall
always feel an interest in the 'Little
Grace Church,' and will always be glad
to hear from you. Please remember me
kindly to all inquiring friends." The
members of Grace Church will all be
glad to read these words from Mrs.
Earl, and we can assure her she has the
sympathy and good wishes of the entire
church. We hope some day she will be
able to visit the church and her friends
here.

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PRAYER MEETING TOPICS.

Young People's Society of Christian En-
 deavor, for Months of May and June.

May 14. "Our Enemies." Eph. V,
 10-18. Maggie Haverly.

May 20. "How Can We Help Our
 Pastor in His Work?" II Thess. iii. 1;
 Col. iv. 3; Ex. xvii. 8-13. Emma Nei-
 reiter.

May 27. Consecration Meeting.
 Sowing All the Time. Isa. xxxii. 1-20;
 Mrs. A. K. Zartman.

June 3. How to make our days
 happy. Acts IV, 31-33, 11, 41-44.
 Harry Vordermark.

June 10. Prayer for the Sunday
 school; its officers, teachers and scholars.
 F. D. Paulus.

June 17. Testimony Meeting. "What
 the Lord has Done for Me." I Cor. xv.
 Rev. 1, 4-6. Anna Vordermark.

June 24. Consecration Meeting.
 Taking Knowledge of Us, that We
 Have Been With Jesus. Acts iv. 8-14.
 Mollie Buckwalter.

We were glad to meet so many of our
 old friends at Goshen while there dur-
 ing the meeting of classis. We were
 sorry we could not visit more of them
 in their homes. Our time was too
 much occupied with classical business.
 Our best wishes shall always be with
 those people and their church.

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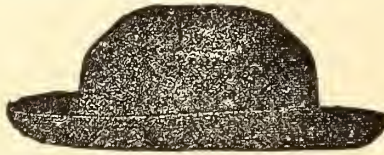
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